Conference on Disarmament

English

Final record of the one thousand four hundred and sixty-eighth plenary meeting
Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Thursday, 30 August 2018, at 10.20 a.m.

President: Ms. Beliz Celasin Rende ..... (Turkey)

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The President: I call to order the one thousand four hundred and sixty-eighth plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament.

Distinguished colleagues, before we proceed, I would like to remind you that this morning we will continue with the informal plenary meeting to continue the work on the annual report. You have now received in your mailboxes the hard copy of the document, CD/WP 610, which has been issued in all official languages.

Before we move to an informal setting, would any delegation like to take the floor in a formal setting? I have the Republic of Korea on the list of speakers. Ambassador, you have the floor.

Mr. Kim Inchul (Republic of Korea): Thank you, Madam President. As this is the first time I have taken the floor during your presidency, I would like first to congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency. I wish you success in your efforts to produce a consensus report on our work, which is not an easy task at all. I assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation and I also would like to express my delegation's gratitude to the five coordinators of the subsidiary bodies, who did a fantastic job in conducting our deliberations and drafting and finalizing the report.

Regarding the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, which we have been considering since last week, my delegation has made its position clear during the bilateral consultations and on other occasions. As we all agree, it is most important to produce a consensus report on our work in order not to send a wrong message to the international community, and so that we do not fail to meet the expectations vested in us.

My delegation is of the view that your draft provides a solid basis which can be worked on to produce a consensus report. Again, I would like to reiterate that the report should be objective, like reports in previous years. During our formal and informal consultations this week, we have made a good progress up to now, except for a few elements that are related to the Syrian presidency and the report of the subsidiary bodies.

Regarding the matter of the Syrian presidency, my delegation fully shares the concerns raised by a number of member States considering the serious developments in Syria this year. Considering the extraordinary circumstances we have faced this year, we are of the view that the concerns raised by many during the sessions need to be duly reflected in the report in one way or the other. I hope that we can find the language of compromise which could find consensus. In this regard, my delegation would like to ask you again, Madam President, to make a last-ditch effort and use your good offices during the remaining days in order to work out the consensus language.

We also look forward to having a good outcome for the reports of the subsidiary bodies.

The President: I thank the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea for his statement. Does any other delegation wish to take the floor? This concludes our business for today. The next plenary meeting of the Conference will be held on Tuesday, 4 September 2018, at 10 a.m. We will now move to an informal plenary meeting to continue our work on the draft report.

The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.